



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

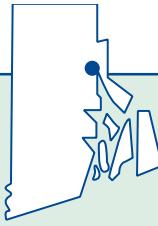
Woonasquatucket Valley Community Build, Providence, RI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Woonasquatucket Valley Community Build (WVCB) was selected to receive two brownfields cleanup grants. Manufacturing, rich natural resources, and a geographically strategic location fueled Providence's (population 173,618) growth. The WVCB is located in the Industrial Valley District of Providence, an area at the convergence of five of the city's poorest districts. The sites targeted for cleanup are in a federally designated Enterprise Community. The percentage of families who live below the poverty level in the neighborhoods served by the WVCB ranges from 26 to



Cleanup Grants



\$400,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected Woonasquatucket Valley Community Build for two brownfields cleanup grants. Grant funds will be used to clean up Providence Steel and Iron, Lots 2 and 3, at 27 Sims Avenue. The company was an iron works for almost a century and also has been used as an office building, bar shop, and brewing company. Funds will be used to cap all site soils.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Woonasquatucket Valley Community Build, RI
401-273-7101

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

41 percent. Unemployment rates are up to seven percent higher than the city's unemployment rate. Abandoned and contaminated industrial lots and old housing stock characterize these neighborhoods. Cleanup of the Providence Steel and Iron property will reduce blight and threats to human health and the environment. When the sites are cleaned up, they will be reused for a planned greenspace amphitheater and lawn that will be available to the public for markets, community meetings, art and cultural festivals, and environmental education programming.